

# Radio 'Hams' of City Pass Emergency Tests

## Complete 26 Hour Vigil in Nationwide Survey of Amateur Communications Facilities; Mayor Visits One of Two Camps Here

Milwaukee's "ham" radio operators Sunday broke camps they had maintained for 26 hours as part of a nationwide test of emergency communications.

The telegraph keys fell silent and worn voices ceased their repetitive calls that through the day and night had abridged the continent.

The camp at S. Forty-third street and W. Edgerton avenue presented a strange mixture of homemade and expensive commercial equipment. Above the tent strewn field a 60 foot all-wave telescopic antenna reached up for messages from the sky.

### OVER 300 CONTACTS MADE

More than 300 contacts were made there, illustrating how Milwaukee would reach the outside world should catastrophe wipe out power and telephone lines.

Directing the staff of 20 men, who worked in shifts from 3 p. m. Saturday until 5 p. m. Sunday, was Oliver Zander, state emergency co-ordinator for the American Relay league, sponsor of the nationwide field trials of the amateur radio operators.

Mayer Zeidler, whose civic air wardens committee already has set up a 15 point communication system, visited the other encampment in the hills near Currie park, west of the intersection of W. Capitol drive and highway 100. With him was William Hoppe. Milwaukee legionnaire who gave impetus to the city air raid observation plan, and the mayor's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Zeidler,

### TALK TO 291 STATIONS

There Milwaukee had been linked with 291 points in the nine U. S. amateur radio districts. The farthest point of contact—Puerto Rico—was made by Emil Felber, 1625 N. Eighteenth st.

Dawn at W. Capitol drive

brought hot coffee, and tired, bearded operators gathered round.

Director Wendell Ciganek, 1723 W. Fond du Lac av., took census of his men. Seven others had stayed the night, resting beside their instruments. They are Lester O. Gerlach, 4218 N. Twenty-second st.; Anthony Barszcz, 2220 S. Fifteenth pl.; Ed Cary, 1972 W. Melvina st.; Lloyd Lewis, route 10, box 739, station F; Jack Bock, 2249 N. Sixty-eighth st.; Charles O. Meyer, 3135 N. Fifth st., and Henry Barnes, 2841 N. Murray av.

### POLICE OPERATOR THERE

Barnes, Milwaukee police radio operator, was relieved at his post at station PDK at midnight and hurried to join the "hams" at the camp.

Mayor Zeidler talked to a contact point in Kewaskum, Wis. Obviously impressed with all he had seen, he said:

"Things of this nature should make a profound impression on all interested in national defense. I am certain that as long as this ingenious spirit typifies the country every American can feel profoundly encouraged."

As portable generators were hushed and camp was broken, only one member exhibited extraordinary reluctance to leave. That was Wendell Ciganek's fox terrier, Drizzle, who scampered about the camp with a bit of blanket tied about her with a strand of aerial wire.

### ESCAPES IN CRASH

Miss Ruth Helz, 2402 N. Thirty-eighth st., escaped with bruises Sunday when her automobile catapulted through guard posts on highway 18 eight miles south-east of Oconomowoc and plunged down a 30 foot embankment. She was alone in the car,

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